



Cherry Dong



Candice Jiang



Mohini Shool



Ana Pardo



Tamilyn Barber



Heidi Witt

In celebration of International Women's Day, we are delighted to shine a spotlight on remarkable women who contribute to the success and vibrancy of our organization. As we recognize the achievements and resilience of women worldwide, we take this opportunity to honor the inspiring individuals within our own workforce who embody the values of empowerment, diversity, and innovation.

Cherry Dong, Training and Development Specialist for Americhem China shares about her past and professional career as a woman. Reflecting on the significance of International Women's Day, Cherry recalls how societal expectations from her upbringing in China often prioritized women's familial roles over their professional ambitions. However, this day has become instrumental in challenging these norms, emphasizing the necessity for equal opportunities for both genders. The evolving themes of International Women's Day, transitioning from addressing violence against women to highlighting women's leadership roles, signify a progressive trajectory toward gender equality on a global scale. From Cherry's perspective, the increasing education levels among women have led to a noticeable surge in female leaders within companies, indicative of substantial strides towards gender parity. Personally, Cherry finds inspiration in the perseverance of figures like Jia Ling, a Chinese actress, whose journey reflects the challenges and virtues essential for success. Cherry noted that in the workplace, she often takes more time to learn and understand a situation before reacting to make a more informed and achievable outcome. One quote that particularly resonates with Cherry is, "Work hard to make a tiny step every day to prepare yourself for challenging work with a smooth mentality," emphasizing the value of continuous effort and mental fortitude in achieving aspirations.

Candice Jiang, Commercial Support Manager, also a part of Americhem China gave great insight into what International Women's Day means to her. In a recent experience preparing for a public event, that focused on women's right and gender equality, Candice noted the importance of respecting, appreciating, and protecting women from all backgrounds, professions, age, or race. Candice expressed that International Women's Day is a great way to contribute to global gender equality by prompting reflection on ongoing challenges and

discrimination that women still face. Candice values the progress towards gender equality being acknowledged, evidenced by increasing female participation across various fields such as politics, economics, and culture. Candice draws inspiration, resilience, and independence from her mother, learning valuable lessons of courage and persistence which have aided in her career. "Her teachings made me understand that no matter what difficulties and challenges I encounter, I should persevere, believe in my abilities, and pursue my dreams," stated Candice. One motto that Candice lives by is "Dreams never end," embodying perseverance and belief in one's aspirations.

Mohini Shool, Human Resource Business Partner for Americhem's India location recounts some great strides that she has been able to accomplish and what International Women's Day means to her. As the first woman in her family to pursue a post-graduate degree, learn to ride a scooter, and drive a car, Mohini reflects on the values that her parents instilled in her. "They (her parents) never distinguished between their children based on gender and always ensured that my siblings and I were provided with equal opportunities to pursue our passion and ambitions," states Mohini. These achievements reflect the values of gender equality, equal opportunities, and support, to show women can break barriers and achieve remarkable feats. Mohini notes that Sudha Murty, the renowned author, and philanthropist, serves as an inspiration due to her commitment to giving back to the community. Mohini shared a quote by Buddha, "What we think, we become," emphasizing the power of positive thinking in shaping actions and outcomes in life.

Ana Pardo, Customer Service Representative for Americhem's operations in Mexico brings to light how feeling empowered as a woman can help you achieve many accomplishments. Being a mom, Ana truly signifies the importance of International Women's Day as she plays a vital role as a pillar to her children instilling values, education, and the access for them to become the best person they can be. She emphasizes how not only International Women's Day, but every day serves as a reminder of women's importance and their contributions globally, advocating for recognition and appreciation across all sectors. Despite acknowledging progress, she stresses there are still inequalities and the need for continued efforts, especially in empowering future generations. Drawing inspiration from her maternal grandmother and mother, Ana underscores the values of hard work, independence, and resilience instilled in her, which have guided her personal and professional journey. Ana concluded with a powerful quote by Indira Gandhi, "To be liberated, woman must feel free to be herself, not in rivalry to man, but in the context of her own capacity and her personality, emphasizing the essence of empowerment and the importance of embracing one's true potential.



2000 Americhem Way | Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221 | p: 330.929.4213 | f: 330.929.4144

americhem.com

Tamilyn Barber, Total Rewards and HRIS Manager highlights the accomplishments of women, inspiring others to challenge stereotypes and pursue their goals. Celebrating the achievements of women across various fields while providing inspiration to others to challenge stereotypes and break down barriers that might discourage women from pursuing their dreams and goals is one way that Tamilyn thinks we can leverage International Women's Day. Tamilyn also thinks that International Women's Day serves as a catalyst for global dialogue on gender equality, fostering collaboration among individuals, organizations, and governments to advance women's rights. These include efforts like Women in Manufacturing that support women's growth in industries historically dominated by men. Tamilyn's personal inspiration often comes from figures like her mother, who overcame career obstacles in the 70's and 80's starting as a part-time bank teller to eventually becoming a Loan Officer and Bank Manager. "In those decades, women managers or officials were not common. She grew in her career by taking night classes to further her education and achieve her goals. She set an example for me of continued growth through learning and hard work. It was later in life that I learned the struggles she faced breaking into a male dominated field," said Tamilyn. A guiding quote for Tamilyn by Jean Giraudoux states "Only the mediocre are always at their best" reminds us of the importance of striving for excellence.

Heidi Witt, Management Accountant for Europe outlines how we can acknowledge progress and change during International Women's Day. Heidi emphasizes the global impact of the day, citing France's recent constitutional recognition on a global issue as a pivotal step toward gender equality. Acknowledging progress and appreciating the importance of collective efforts, Heidi finds great pride in living in Denmark, a woman led country. "I find Queen Margrethe and Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen very inspirational for not only women, but for the whole country to recognize the immense progress we have made over the years," notes Heidi. Concluding with a quote by Brian Bisgaard, "Only you are your own obstacle," Heidi reflects on self-motivation and determination.

As we celebrate International Women's Day, it's essential to recognize and honor the remarkable contributions of women in our workforce and beyond. Each woman featured in our employee spotlight embodies resilience, leadership, and dedication, serving as an inspiration to us all. Americhem is truly lucky to have them as a part of our team.